

Instructions for Submission of Isolates for Bacterial, Fungal, and Mycobacterial Identification

(Category "A" guidelines included)

I. Collection kit

- A. Unit 42B (IATA Category B)
- B. **Unit 42A (IATA Category A)-Shipped only by certified Category A trained personal. Please contact our DASH unit at 517-335-8059 if assistance is needed.**

II. Acceptable Isolates

- A. Aerobic bacterial isolates submitted on enriched medium suitable for growth
NOTE: Potential Select Agents (*B. anthracis*, *Brucella sp.*, *Burkholderia mallei/pseudomallei*, *Clostridium botulinum*, *Francisella tularensis*, and *Yersinia pestis*) and known isolates of Shiga-toxin producing *E. coli* must be shipped Category A.
- B. Fungal-like isolates submitted on agar slants
NOTE: Known isolates of *Coccidioides immitis* must be shipped Category A
- C. Mycobacterial isolates in broth or slanted media with unknown identification or *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* has been ruled out.
NOTE: Known isolates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* must be shipped Category A
- D. Broth cultures for Bacterial and Fungal identification are accepted only by prior notification
- E. Petri plates for Bacterial and Fungal identification are accepted only by prior notification

III. Unacceptable Isolates

Dermatophytes and yeast isolates for fungal identification

IV. Labeling

- A. Label the specimen with the complete patient name and at least 1 unique identifier (For example, specimen number, medical record number, etc.)
- B. Enter the required information on the test requisition form (DCH-0583). The patient name and unique identifier on the form must be entered **exactly** the same as the information on the tube.
- C. If there are multiple specimens from the same patient, please label each specimen tube with the correct specimen number. A separate test requisition is needed for each specimen.

V. Packaging and Shipping-Category B

- A. Make sure the cap on the tube is seated tightly and evenly as possible to prevent leaking. Parafilm® or tape the cap to secure.
- B. Wrap the isolate with paper toweling and insert the isolate with the absorbent pad into the small plastic bag provided. Seal the bag.
- C. Place the small bag in the larger Category B secondary container (plastic bag with the biohazard symbol that comes with the Category B shipping materials supplied by MDHHS Bio-Bag). Seal the bag by removing the white strip and folding over the adhesive flap of the bag.
- D. Place the completed MDHHS test requisition in the outside pocket of the Bio-Bag.
- E. Insert the Bio-Bag diagonally into the provided Category B box so it is suspended in the middle. If necessary, add extra cushioning such as paper toweling or bubble wrap).
- F. Close the box and secure with sealing tape on both sides of the flap.

Unit 42B-Bacterial, Fungal, and Mycobacterial Isolate Identification



Unit 42A-Bacterial, Fungal, and Mycobacterial Isolate Identification-Shipped only by certified Category A trained personal

